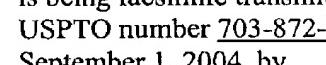


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SEP 01 2004

**Docket Number:** 2316-148

**IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE**

In re Application of ) Examiner: Frank Wei Min LU  
Norman G. ANDERSON et al. )  
Serial No.: 10/050,848 ) Group Art Unit: 1634  
Filed: January 18, 2002 ) I hereby certify that this correspondence  
For: Detection and Characterization ) is being facsimile transmitted to the  
of Microorganisms ) USPTO number 703-872-9306 on  
 ) September 1, 2004 by  
  
John E. Tarcza  
Reg. No. 33,638

**AMENDMENT UNDER 37 CFR 1.116**

Mail Stop AF  
Commissioner for Patents  
P.O. Box 1450  
Alexandria, VA 22313-1450

Date: September 1, 2004

Dear Sir:

In response to the Final Rejection mailed July 1, 2004, wherein the Examiner set a three-month period for response, this response is timely filed within two months.

Please amend the above-identified application as follows:

**Amendments to the claims** are reflected in the listing of claims, which begins on page 2 of this paper.

Remarks/Arguments begin on page 5 of this paper.